Poor condition of National Highways in North-Eastern Region

2610. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that condition of National Highways passing through Assam and other states of the North-Eastern Region has been extremely deplorable; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to bring them up to the mark?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) National Highways in Assam and other North Eastern Region are maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available resources. To improve the condition of National Highways, allocation in NE Region has been enhanced to nearly Rs. 167 crore in 1998-99 under plan and non-plan works from nearly Rs. 120 crore in 1997-98.

Discrepancy in Admitting Seamen in ISHS, Mumbai

2611. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Sailors Home Society has taken a decision recently to the effect that the Seamen Possessing CDC issued from the ports other than Mumbai are not bring allowed to stay more than 30 days in a calender year in the "Indian Sailors Home Society", Thane Street, Mazjid Bunder, Mumbai; and

(b) if so, the reasons allowing it since the decision goes against the very spirit of the constitution and the uniform welfare of the Indian Seamen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Indian Sailors Home Society is a private society registered under Indian Company Act. No grant is given to the Society by Central Government or State Government.

During the 1980s the occupancy of the hostels of the society was low. In order to augment the revenues, the society permitted non-Mumbai registered seamen to stay for more than 30 days. However, since starting of pre-sea training by various Government approved training centres, trainee seamen have been coming to Mumbai and the society is requested to provide accommodation for them. The total capacity of the society is 964 beds whereas Mumbai registered seamen are in excess of 20,000 Society, therefore, decided in its meeting on 28.5.98 that CDCs issued by the Shipping Master, Mumbai and/or seamen registered at the Seamen's Employment Office, Mumbai only shall be permitted to stay in the home-hostel exceeding 30 days. Seamen who are in possession of CDC and/or registration book issued at other Indian ports by the Shipping Master/Employment offices shall only be permitted to stay in the home/hostel not exveeding 30 days in a calender year as a transiting facility.

राज्य राजमार्गों के उन्नयन के लिए मानदंड

2612. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी . सोलंकी** : क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राज्य राजमार्गो का उन्नयन करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित मानदंडो का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) उन राज्यों का ब्यौरा क्या ह ऐ जिनमें पिछले तीन वर्षो के दौरान राज्य राजमार्गो का उन्नयन किया गया है ; और